

25 JUL 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Concerned Citizen Call regarding Agency Environmental Pollution

1. On the evening of 23 July, a Mrs. Malcolm T. Agnew (wife of Lt. Col. per phone book) phoned Mr. Van Damm regarding an "organic hot spot" in the Potomac River caused by Agency pollution. Although she advised Mr. Van Damm that she was to be out of town for a week, she was contacted at home the evening of 24 July.

2. Mrs. Agnew belongs to a self-described, small, select group of Metropolitan Washington Area persons interested in the environment and known as a center of environmental strategy. She stated that she was in receipt of photographs from ERDS (the Earth Domain Satellite) which showed an organic hot spot in the river where our "sewage overflow discharges." She also stated that she had contacted Fairfax County, obtained sewage readings for our pump station, and reviewed our sewage drawings (correctly observing that we had an 8 inch force main into the Fairfax system). She stated that she had had the line size analyzed by a mechanical engineer and that we obviously had between 8 and 10 thousand people at Langley. While the general tone of the conversation was pleasant, she also included statements such as "Fairfax County never wanted you in the first place" and "we caught you dumping classified trash into the river a year ago and made you stop."

3. I attempted to be inordinately polite to Mrs. Agnew and advised her as follows:

a. It was highly unlikely that our sewage overflowed into the river because of the checks in our system such as the float activated backup pump, the secondary alarm into the Fairfax system, and a manually operated third ejection pump.

b. The hot spot observed undoubtedly originated from steam condensate flowing down the storm drain system (a situation since corrected).

c. The matter would be fully investigated and, if pollution was occurring, would be immediately corrected.

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d. CIA had great concern both for environmental pollution and maintaining good relations with its neighbors and would take all steps necessary to ensure both.

e. Mrs. Agnew would be contacted within a week and advised of the results of my personal investigation and escorted to the sewage ejection station for an explanation of its function if she wished.

4. The conversation ended on an amicable note, and I will effect the actions in paragraph 3 above to include a letter to Mrs. Agnew presenting conditions as they exist.

[REDACTED]

STATINTL

Chief

Real Estate and Construction Division, OL

Distribution:

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STATINTL OL/RECD: [REDACTED] 1j/3017 (25 July 73)

Region 3
Washington, D.C. 20407



APR 11 1973

Mr. John F. Blake
Director of Logistics
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Blake:

We wish to acknowledge your letter of March 22, 1973, concerning possible violations of the Virginia State Emission Standards at the Langley complex.

We have reviewed our operations with regards to Rule 4.705.03, Control of Hydrocarbon Emission from Stationary Sources. This regulation deals with the storage and dispersement of volatile organic compounds such as gasoline. Our boiler operation utilizes number 6 oil which is not considered a volatile organic compound as defined in the state regulations. Therefore, Rule 4.705.03 is not applicable to our operations at Langley.

We will so advise the Virginia State Air Pollution Control Board.

Sincerely,

John J. Province
JOHN J. PROVINCE
Acting Regional Commissioner
Public Buildings Service

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